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August 25, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to state my opinion on the following docket numbers: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-O197, concerning the practice of forced molting by the egg industry.

Not only is the practice of forced molting cruel but it allows salmonella to spread more easily because it comprises the hen's immune systems causing more harm to humans. The FDA should do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. The FDA should prohibit the practice of forced molting altogether because of this threat of infectious disease to consumers of eggs and to the hens.

Thank you for taking the time to listen.

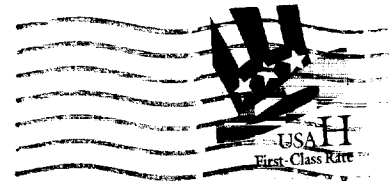
Sincerely,



Constance Dutton

98N 1230

0453



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Rockville, MD

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C 453

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C 454
96P-0418/ C 453